

**Nervous and Mental Diseases.** By Archibald Church, M. D., Professor of Nervous and Mental Diseases in Northwestern University Medical School, Chicago; and Frederick Peterson, M. D., formerly Professor of Psychiatry, Columbia University. Ninth edition, revised. Octavo volume of 949 pages, with 350 illustrations. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company, 1919. Cloth, \$7.00 net.

Nine editions and sixteen printings sufficiently indicate the opinion of the profession. Apparently this work abundantly satisfies the practitioner, for whom it is chiefly designed. It is really two separate works bound as one, the section on psychiatry being totally independent of the section on neurology, each author responsible alone for his department.

For the physician who may wish to know something about almost any subject in neurology or psychiatry, it is a trustworthy and satisfactory reference, but it is too brief for the student who is looking, as he should, for fundamental information. The limitations of the work are clearly recognized by the authors, and they have included between the covers what they felt was of most use to the practicing physician, and for him the book is eminently satisfactory. E. W. T.

## Correspondence

### Received at Stanford Clinics

Feb. 21, 1920.

Too the Doctors at the College. In the latter part off 1911 or the first part off 1912 I was at the college for treatment for my Stomach a certain Doctor prescribed hydrostatic acid and gave me some cascara for physic. I would like to get some of that hydrostatic acid again. It is the only Medicine that will help me, there is no Doctor that can Substitute in place off the acid. I would be very much obliged if you would try and Send me some of the Medicine I don't care what the expence I will pay most any bill If I only can get the Medecine (that is the acid).

YOURS TRULY.

### HATS OFF TO TRINITY COUNTY

Weaverville, Cal., Feb. 11, 1920.

To the Editor:—

Enclosed you will find a list of the births, deaths and marriages of Trinity County for the year of 1919—seven marriages, 22 births and 23 deaths.

Thought it might be of interest on account of the longevity of the citizens of Trinity County; with the exception of three, the average age at death was over 80 years; those met death as follows: one from high power current (Fruit); one from powder explosion (Mori), and one died shortly after his arrival from Los Angeles for his health. So if you want to live to a long useful life and enjoy excellent health, climate and beautiful scenery, come to Trinity County, Cal.

Yours truly,

D. B. FIELDS, M. D.  
Trinity County Physician and  
Health Officer.

P. S.—Trinity County sent 10 per cent. of its population to war, went over the top on all bond issues, Red Cross, Salvation Army, Y. M. C. A. drives and sale of stamps, and still we live to enjoy excellent health.

## Immunity

The Journal will express no opinion of and assume no responsibility for the views of "Immunity" correspondents. They must win or lose on their own merits by abounding in their own wisdom, and each reader must appraise each communication for what it is worth and take it for better or worse.

Communications will not be signed when published, but the author must be known to the editor. Send on your complaints, your kicks, your knocks, your boasts. We want constructive and destructive criticism. Air your pet hobbies. You are not limited to your own town or the medical profession.

### CUI BONO?

San Francisco, March 10, 1920.

To the Editor:—

May I ask why the Journal should not discuss editorially the campaign of healing and invasion of medical fields undertaken by the Episcopal Church? First the Emmanuel Movement, then a host of lesser healers, and now James Moore (or less) Hickson. Why should the credulous public always be the victims of mental healers, now outside the church and frankly commercial, now inside the church and with the cloak of other-worldism?

What is the difference between Hickson and Christian Science? He says the latter is diabolical and doubtless the Eddyists would make the same rejoinder about him. He does not recognize the processes of nature which we call disease and Eddyism claims the same. Why should this San Francisco preacher, Boyd, also in the fold of the Episcopal Church, attract large crowds to his church by advertising his health talks (?), and then get as many of these crowds and of his parishioners as he can into his office down-town on week days, at five dollars each? If it is proper and decent for him to do this, why then should not the doctor do the same and advertise his wares of a Sunday so that his reception room will be filled on Monday? It is too bad that a great church should allow itself to be smirched and its mission clouded by the introduction of a system of so-called healing which is foreign to the work of the church, not in accord with the teachings of Christ, and certain to lead to untold charlatanry and imposition on a credulous public. Is it solely to attract the dollars, or is it because the church feels itself losing ground in its own sphere of ministering to the spiritual betterment of mankind.

Very truly yours.

ONE WHO WANTS TO KNOW.

## State Medical Society

### RULES GOVERNING READING OF PAPERS AND DISCUSSIONS AT STATE SOCIETY MEETING

The following rules, which have been adopted from time to time by the Committee on Scientific Program and which apply to the coming meeting of the State Society, are here reprinted for the benefit of those who will read papers and those participating in the discussions.

#### Rules for Authors

1. Time allotted for each paper is fifteen minutes. The only exception to this rule will be the latitude allowed visitors from other states who come as guests of the Society.

2. No motion from the floor to extend the time of the author will be considered by the chairman of any section.

3. Each author will be allowed five minutes for closing the discussion of his paper.

4. Each author must prepare an extra copy of his paper and present the same to the officer

presiding over his section before he will be eligible to read his paper.

5. Absolutely no paper may be "read by title." By consulting the program appearing in this and in the May issue, as well as the special program issued at the state meeting, each author can learn definitely when his paper is due to be read.

6. Failure on the part of an author to appear and read his paper automatically precludes the acceptance of future papers by such author for a period of two years.

#### Rules for Those Taking Part in Discussions

1. Openers are limited to five minutes.
2. Subsequent speakers are limited to three minutes.
3. The privilege of a second three minutes will not be granted to any one.

## County Societies

### ALAMEDA COUNTY

The regular monthly meeting of the Alameda County Medical Society was held February 16 and the following papers were read and widely discussed:

Chronic Complications following Gonorrhea; Their recognition and management. Dr. Geo. G. Reinle and Dr. E. Spence De Puy.

The X-Ray in Therapeutics: Dr. S. A. Jelte.

The Lav Anesthetist; Dr. David Hader.

The following were elected to membership in the Society: Dr. Lucy Ruth Kilgore, Dr. Richard G. Watson, Dr. J. W. Scannell, Dr. O. P. Stowe.

On Saturday, March 6, the County Society met at a Victory Banquet at the Hotel Oakland. There were present a hundred members to do honor to the medical men of the Society who have returned from Military or Naval Service.

The Honorary guests of the evening were Dr. C. A. L. Reed of Cincinnati, who delivered an interesting address upon the advisability of concentrating the nation's Public Health Services under one head; Dr. Saxton Pope of San Francisco, who spoke convincingly regarding the duty of each member of the Society to subscribe to the Indemnity Fund; and Dr. H. A. L. Ryfkogel of San Francisco, who spoke upon the Public Health problems falling under the control of the League of Nations.

Three highly appreciated vocal selections were, in the course of the evening, rendered by Mrs. Julia Phillips Page, wife of Dr. Clarence Page, and the University of California Quartet rendered four pleasing selections in its customary charming manner.

#### Personal.

Dr. Benjamin Thomas has returned from military services and resumed private practice.

Dr. Elsie Reed Mitchell and Dr. Clara Williams, both of Berkeley, are among the women physicians who are now doing medical relief work in Turkey and Armenia.

### CONTRA COSTA COUNTY.

At the first regular meeting of 1920 of the Contra Costa County Medical Society held January 31, the following officers were elected: Dr. G. M. O'Malley, president, Crockett; Dr. M. L. Fernandez, vice-president; Dr. C. T. Wetmore, secretary-treasurer, Hercules.

Dr. Dudley Smith of Oakland gave a very interesting and instructive talk on the organization, achievements and purposes of the League for the Conservation of Public Health. Several members of this society pledged their support to the cause of the League.

### FRESNO COUNTY

The Fresno County Medical Society resumed its usual activity Tuesday evening, March 2. This being the first regular meeting held since January on account of the prevalence of influenza.

Dr. J. H. Pettis, president, opened the meeting and introduced Dr. Joseph Catton of San Francisco who delivered a scientific paper on malingering.

Dr. Catton spoke of malingering both in civil and military organizations, its prevalence but more particularly of the cost to the nation and the individual industries of the nation. He called attention to the significance of a thorough examination of the supposed malingerer both as to his bodily defects but especially to his psychic condition. The speaker drew a very nice distinction between true malingering and hysteria.

Before malingering can be diagnosed the following must be ruled out: 1. Organic disease; 2. Possible aftermath when original injury is completely healed; 3. Hysteria; 4. Fraud must be demonstrated; 5. Psychiatric examination must show absence of psychoneuroses, psychoses, inebriety, mental deficiency and constitutional psychopathy.

The discussion brought forth was lively and has led to suggestions that informal discussions be limited to five minutes each.

Dr. Charles L. Tranter of San Francisco was then introduced and he gave a short but very comprehensive paper on peripheral nerve surgery. The speaker dealt principally with the progress that has been made in this branch of surgery since 1915. Attention was called to some of the important and more recent tests of nerve regeneration particularly Tinel's formication test and muscle reflex.

Dr. Tranter is still in the service and he told of his work with Tinel as well as his work at Foxhill, N. Y.

A discussion of the paper brought out the inadequacy of the older methods of diagnosis.

It having been brought to the attention of the Board of Governors that certain members of the County Society had been called to the bedside of dying Eddyites for the sole purpose of making diagnoses and signing death certificates the following resolution was adopted in open meeting:

It having been brought to the attention of the Board of Governors that such had occurred, it hereby condemns the practice of signing death certificates of christian scientists, all sects, cults or creeds who do not believe in the practice of scientific medicine unless such practitioners have been in regular attendance.

### LOS ANGELES COUNTY.

#### Los Angeles County Medical Association.

#### Meeting of February 5.

The first monthly meeting took place in the Friday Morning Club at the usual time.

In the absence of the president, Dr. Rae Smith, the vice-president, Dr. John V. Barrow, presided.

Dr. Newton Evans gave a very interesting pictorial talk on "Malignant Myomas of the Uterus."

Dr. Maurice Kahn read a very interesting paper on "How May We Reduce the Mortality in Appendicitis?"

Dr. H. H. Koons' subject was "Some Observations on the Use of Vaccines and Other Acids in the Treatment of Influenza Pneumonia." His conclusions were:

1. A prophylactic dose will confer immunity from six to eight weeks.

2. As a remedial agent, if given at onset, will materially shorten and lessen the severity of attack and pneumonia will be rare occurrence.